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ABSTRACT

This book offers suggestions for developing well-planned and effective computer-mediated distance learning. Part 1 lays the foundation for a distance education framework. Chapter 1 explores issues involved in teaching and learning when learning moves into the online environment. Chapter 2 looks at the essence of the framework--the importance of building community in the online environment--and differentiates a model of pedagogy that leads to success in the electronic classroom from a traditional model of pedagogy. Chapter 3 explores key issues needing attention in the electronic classroom. Chapters 4-5 address more concrete issues of time, group size, and technology as they pertain to online teaching. Part 2 is an experiential guide to creating an electronic learning community leading to effective distance learning. Chapter 6 shows how to make the conversion from the traditional classroom to cyberspace. Chapter 7 offers suggestions on the following activities: creating a syllabus, setting objectives and learning outcomes, negotiating guidelines, setting up the course site online, gaining participation and student buy-in, and accounting for presence in the online classroom. Chapter 8 offers techniques to stimulate collaborative learning. Chapter 9 explores incorporating transformative learning into the context of the online course. Chapter 10 focuses on evaluating results. Chapter 11 reviews keys to successful online learning. (The book contains 106 references. Appendixes include sample course syllabi, a glossary of computer-mediated distance education terms, Internet resources for distance education, and an index.) (YLB)

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